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VaH 9-26-07

Claims

1. (Cancelled)

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Currently amended) [The nursing system of claim 1] A nursing aid system comprising:

a breast cup having a concave breast receiving portion, said cup having a hollow generally cylindrical nipple receiving portion adapted for grasping by the mouth of an infant, said nipple receiving portion located on and projecting away from said concave portion, said nipple receiving portion having an end remote from said concave portion and a milk delivery aperture at said end; and

a nipple extender axially slidably receiveable in said nipple receiving portion, said nipple extender having an axial length less than an axial length of said nipple receiving portion, said extender being sized and configured to occupy space in said nipple receiving portion not occupied by a mother's nipple, said extender having a flow channel for conducting milk in said nipple receiving portion from a mother's nipple to said milk delivery aperture, wherein said flow channel is provided on an exterior annular surface of said nipple extender, said flow channel extending from a first end of said extender to a location proximate said milk delivery aperture.

4. (Original)   The nursing system of claim 3, wherein said flow channel is

provided by multiple grooves on said annular surface.

5. (Original) The nursing system of claim 4, wherein said grooves extend parallel to a central axis of said generally cylindrical extender.

6. (Cancelled)

7. (Currently amended) The nursing system of claim [1] 3, wherein said breast cup is formed of flexible elastomeric material.

8. (Original) The nursing system of claim 7, wherein said milk delivery aperture comprises slit means extending through said end of said nipple receiving portion to provide a normally closed milk delivery aperture.

9. (Original) The nursing system of claim 8, wherein said slit means comprises crossed slits.

10. (Cancelled) .

11. (Currently amended) The nursing system of claim [10] 12, wherein said cups are formed of flexible elastomeric material.

12. (Currently amended) [The nursing system of claim 11] A nursing system comprising:

a series of breast cups each having a concave portion for receiving a female human breast, said cups each having a hollow generally cylindrical nipple receiving portion adapted to be grasped by the mouth of an infant, said nipple receiving portion located on and

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projecting away from said concave portion, said nipple receiving portions of said series of cups being of different lengths and each having a milk delivery aperture in an end remote from said concave portion; and

a series of generally cylindrical nipple extenders each axially slidably receiveable in said nipple receiving portions, said extenders each having an axial length less than an axial length of said nipple receiving portions, said extenders each being differently sized to occupy substantially all space in said nipple receiving portions not occupied by a human nipple, said extenders each having a channel for conducting milk in said nipple receiving portions from a human nipple to said milk delivery apertures, wherein said flow channels are provided on exterior annular surfaces of said nipple extenders, said flow channels extending from a first end of said extenders to a location proximate said milk delivery apertures.

13. (Original) The nursing system of claim 12, wherein said nipple extenders include spaced surfaces engaging said nipple receiving portions of said cups, said flow channels being between said spaced surfaces.

14. (Original) The nursing system of claim 13, wherein said spaced surfaces extend parallel to central axes of said nipple extenders.

15. (Cancelled)

16. (Currently amended) The nursing system of claim [11] 12, wherein said milk delivery apertures comprise slit means extending through said ends of said nipple receiving

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portions to provide normally closed milk delivery apertures.

17. (Original) The nursing system of claim 16, wherein said slit means comprises crossed slits.

Claims 18 - 26   (Cancelled)

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